

SOCIAL WORK – 24 August 1999

Motherwell, 24 August 1999 at 11 am.

A Meeting of the **SOCIAL WORK COMMITTEE**

PRESENT

Councillor H. McGuigan, Convener; Councillor Selfridge, Vice-Convener; Councillors Cassidy, Chadha, Cox, Curley, Devine, Gordon, Gorman, Irvine, Jones, Love, Lunny, McKinlay, McLaughlin, J. Martin, Morris, M. Murray, Nolan, Robertson, Ross, Saunders, Shaw, Shields, Stocks and Valentine.

CHAIR

Councillor H. McGuigan (Convener) presided.

IN ATTENDANCE

The Chief Committee Services Officer, Director of Social Work, Head of Social Work Development, Head of Social Work Services, Head of Social Work Resources, Principal Officer, Criminal Justice and Accounting Manager.

APOLOGIES

Councillors McCabe, McElroy, J. McGuigan and Sullivan.

BEST VALUE - REVIEW OF RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION FOR CHILDREN

1. With reference to paragraph 4 of the Minute of the meeting of the Policy and Resources (Performance and Best Value) Sub-Committee held on 12 August 1999 when, inter alia, that Sub-Committee had (1) noted the service review of residential accommodation for children, and (2) remitted the report to this Committee for its interest, there was submitted the said report dated 30 March 1999 by the Chief Executive thereon.

Decided: that the contents of the report be noted.

MINUTE OF MEETING OF SUB-COMMITTEE - SOCIAL WORK (OPERATIONS AND SERVICES) SUB-COMMITTEE

2. There was submitted the Minute of the meeting of the Social Work (Operations and Services) Sub-Committee held on 17 August 1999.

Decided: that the terms of the Minute be approved.

BUDGET MONITORING REPORT FOR THE SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT - 1 APRIL 1998 TO 31 MARCH 1999 - 1998/99 OUTTURN REPORT

3. There was submitted a report dated 11 August 1999 by the Director of Finance detailing the outturn expenditure for the financial year 1998/99 for the Department of Social Work and Sheltered Workshops and providing a comparison of actual expenditure and income with the approved budget with explanations of the most significant variances.

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Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.

REVENUE ESTIMATES 1999/2000 - FINANCIAL MONITORING STATEMENT FOR THE SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT AND SHELTERED WORKSHOP

4. There were submitted reports dated 10 and 11 August by Director of Finance advising of Department spending levels for the Department of Social Work and Sheltered Workshop for the period from 1 April 1999 to 18 July 1999 and providing a comparison with the approved budget.

Decided: that the terms of the reports be noted.

COMPOSITE CAPITAL PROGRAMME - 1999/2000 MONITORING REPORT FOR SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT - 1 APRIL TO 18 JULY 1999

5. There was submitted a report dated 10 August 1999 by the Director of Finance regarding the current progress being made on individual projects included in the Capital Programme (1) advising that the Capital Programme approved by the Council for the financial year 1999/2000 amounted to £838,000 which has subsequently been enhanced by £52,000 carried forward from the 1998/99 Capital Programme; (2) intimating that expenditure and commitments against approved budget amounted to £318,000 as detailed in appendix 1 to the report, and (3) indicating that additional expenditure on Emma Jay Road, Bellshill would be offset by slippage from projects brought forward from 1998/99 and the Minor Works Programme.

Decided: that the financial position of the Capital Programme for the Social Work Department as at 18 July 1999 be noted.

PHEW (SCOTLAND) LIMITED - REVISED MAINTENANCE RATES

6. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 17 August 1999 by the Director of Social Work setting out revised maintenance rates for Clifton House, Coatbridge and Buchanan House, Coatbridge Respite Units operated by PHEW (Scotland) Limited.

Decided: that consideration of the matter be continued meantime.

UPLIFT OF SUPPLEMENTATION RATES FOR VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN 1999/2000

7. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 17 August 1999 by the Director of Social Work regarding the uprating of the supplementation rates paid to registered residential or day care establishments in the voluntary sector in North Lanarkshire (1) proposing that the employee costs element of the budget be increased on an interim basis by 3.3 per cent for the voluntary organisations listed in the appendix to the report; (2) intimating that all new rates would be effective from 1 April 1999 and each organisation would be reviewed on an individual basis; (3) recommending that the uplift for Cornerstone Project, Wishaw, Penumbra, Wishaw and Buchanan House and Clifton House, Coatbridge be deferred pending resolution of ongoing discussions with the organisations, and (4) indicating that the increased costs could be met from within the Social Work budget.

Decided:

- (1) that the proposed increases to the supplementation rates for voluntary organisations listed in the appendix to the report with the exception of Buchanan House and Clifton House, Coatbridge be approved on an interim basis with effect from 1 April 1999, and

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- (2) that it be noted that individual reviews would be carried out on each establishment and any further proposals would be reported to a future meeting of the Committee.

EMBEDDED CHIPS - YEAR 2000 COMPLIANCE UPDATE

8. With reference to paragraph 8 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 8 June 1999 when the progress made towards ensuring that all Social Work equipment was Year 2000 compliant had been noted, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 11 August 1999 by the Director of Social Work (1) intimating that Milngavie Controls and the Departments of Housing and Property Services and Social Work were carrying out the work in two phases, and (2) detailing in Section 2 of the report the further progress which had been made to ensure that all of the Department's systems and services would be Year 2000 compliant.

Decided: that the contents of the report be noted.

REGULATION OF EARLY EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE - GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION

9. With reference to paragraph 29 of the Minute of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 22 June 1999 when, inter alia, that Committee noted the Government's proposals to regulate Early Years Education and Childcare provision, approved the comments prepared in response to the Government's Consultation Paper by the Children's Services Strategy Working Group and remitted the report to this Committee, there were submitted the said reports dated 15 June and 24 August 1999 by the Chief Executive and Director of Social Work thereon.

Decided: that the contents of the report be noted.

PANEL OF SAFEGUARDERS FOR NORTH LANARKSHIRE

10. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 18 August 1999 by the Director of Administration regarding the Panel of Safeguarders for North Lanarkshire Council (1) outlining the background to the recruitment of the current Panel of Safeguarders; (2) advising that the current Panel of Safeguarders which has subsequently been reduced to eight had been appointed until 31 December 1999 after which they would require re-appointment; (3) intimating that following discussion with the Authority Reporter it was considered necessary to have a Panel of twelve Safeguarders to cope with the current volume of referrals, and (4) making proposals for existing Safeguarders to seek re-appointment and for action required to appoint new Safeguarders to bring the Panel to twelve.

Decided:

- (1) that it be agreed that the existing members of the Panel of Safeguarders be asked if they wished to seek re-appointment and if so and subject to satisfactory outcome of the consultation process that they be re-appointed;
- (2) that the Panel of Safeguarders be increased in size to twelve Safeguarders;
- (3) that press adverts be placed seeking interest from persons who wished to be considered for inclusion on the Panel of Safeguarders, and
- (4) that interviews be conducted to make recommendations to a future meeting of the Committee for appointment to the Panel of Safeguarders.

SOCIAL WORK SERVICES AT SHOTTS PRISON

11. There was submitted a report dated 27 July 1999 by the Director of Social Work regarding the work of the Social Work Unit at Shotts Prison complex in relation to inspection reports undertaken by the Prisons Inspectorate at the Prison and at the National Induction Centre and seeking approval for proposed changes to the Social Work Unit (1) intimating that the Social Work Unit provides Social Work Services to three Prison establishments within the complex, HMP Shotts; the National Induction Centre and the Shotts Unit; (2) intimating that inspections of Prisons are undertaken on a regular basis by the Prison's Inspectorate; (3) detailing the results and recommendations of the inspection; (4) recommending that the Addiction Worker post be regraded from AP3/4 to AP4/5 and redesignated as Senior Project Worker (Addiction), and (5) proposing that the work undertaken in HMP Shotts in relation to prisoners serving life sentences be clearly defined to ensure clarity of practice and monitoring arrangements.

Decided:

- (1) that the results of the Inspections of HMP Shotts, the National Induction Centre and the Shotts Unit in relation to services provided by North Lanarkshire be noted;
- (2) that the changes made to practice and monitoring arrangements in relation to work undertaken with life prisoners be noted;
- (3) that the regrading of the Addiction Worker post at Shotts Prison be approved, and
- (4) that the report be remitted to the Personnel Services Committee for its interest and consideration.

REGISTRATION OF ESTABLISHMENTS: NEW REGISTRATIONS AND/OR NOTIFICATION OF CHANGES TO THE REGISTRATION OF INDIVIDUAL ESTABLISHMENTS

12. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 17 August 1999 by the Director of Social Work advising that, in accordance with Section 2 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 as amended by the Registered Establishments (Scotland) Act 1987, there had been approved seven new registrations and/or changes to registration of establishments, details of which were appended to the report.

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.

CONTRACTING ARRANGEMENTS FOR SOCIAL CARE

(1) UPDATE REPORT

13. With reference to paragraph 2 of the Minute of the meeting of the Social Work (Planning and Administration) Sub-Committee held on 16 February 1999 when *inter alia*, progress in establishing social care contracts within North Lanarkshire had been noted, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated August 1999 by the Director of Social Work (1) intimating that there were no new registered residential services which required a contract and no new nursing home services which required a contract with Lanarkshire Health Board; (2) informing that a standard contract had now been signed for Calder Lodge Residential Home, Coatbridge to provide residential care services for four elderly persons; (3) indicating that the Council was unable to proceed with the assignation of the Residential Care Home standard contract at Drumpellier Lodge, Bargeddie due to problems with the partnership which had prompted legal proceedings and that until this was resolved the Council would continue to fund existing residents placed in the Home by North Lanarkshire Council, and (4) indicating that there had been a requirement to secure services outwith the Council for 28 individuals to accommodate client choice as detailed within appendix 2 to the report.

Decided: that the terms of the report be approved.

(2) LIST OF AUTHORISED PROVIDERS OF SOCIAL CARE SERVICES

14. With reference to paragraph 3 of the Minute of the meeting of the Social Work (Planning and Administration) Sub-Committee held on 16 February 1999 when it had been agreed to note the additions and amendments to the authorised list of Providers of Social Care Services, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 17 August 1999 by the Director of Social Work in respect of further amendments to be made to the Council's list of Authorised Providers (1) recommending within Appendix 1 to the report for inclusion on the list (a) three providers previously authorised pending assessment; (b) five providers who had been assessed by the Directors of Social Work, Finance and Administration, and (c) one provider registered by another local authority, and (2) detailing within Appendix 2 to the report six new applications which had been received and which were currently the subject of appropriate investigations by the Directors of Social Work, Finance and Administration.

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL REGISTRATION AND INSPECTION UNIT - ANNUAL REPORT - 1 APRIL 1998 - 31 MARCH 1999

15. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 17 August 1999 by the Director of Social Work (1) setting out in Appendix 1 the annual report by the Inspection Unit on the Registration and Inspection of Residential and Day Care Establishments for 1998/99; (2) indicating that the Advisory Committee on Inspection had already considered and approved the report and that comments from the Committee were included as a foreword to the report, and (3) summarising in Section 3 of the report the main findings of the report.

Decided:

- (1) that the findings and action set out in the annual report on North Lanarkshire Council's Registration and Inspection Unit be endorsed, and
- (2) that approval be given for its wider circulation.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON INSPECTION - FUTURE COMPOSITION AND ARRANGEMENTS

- C** 16. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 17 August 1999 by the Director of Social Work regarding the operation of the Advisory Committee on Inspection over the past two years and proposing future structure and terms of reference for the Committee (1) detailing the background to the Scottish Office guidance which required Local Authorities to have in place an Advisory Committee on Inspection; (2) detailing the operation of the Advisory Committee on Inspection over the last two years; (3) setting out the proposed future structure of the Committee with regard to membership, chair arrangements, service user representation, meetings and venues and terms of reference, and (4) indicating that proposed membership arrangements combined with a revised programme would allow continuity.

Decided:

- (1) that the future arrangements for the Advisory Committee on Inspection as detailed within the report be approved;
- (2) that the Director of Social Work report in twelve months on the effectiveness or otherwise of the revised arrangements, and

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- (3) that the appointment of two members of the Social Work Committee to serve on the Advisory Committee on Inspection be remitted to the Council for consideration.

SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT - SERVICE PLAN MONITORING REPORT

17. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 17 August 1999 by the Director of Social Work advising of the implementation of the department Service Plan for 1999-2002 and setting out in the Appendix to the report details of the progress of the seventeen key strategic development tasks identified therein.

Decided: that the progress on the key strategic development tasks as detailed in the Appendix to the report be noted.

PROVISION OF DAY CARE FOR OLDER PEOPLE - FUNDING ISSUES

18. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 17 August 1999 by the Director of Social Work regarding the issues concerning the future funding of Wishaw Resource Centre for the Elderly and proposing an urgent review of day care services in North Lanarkshire provided and funded from the Social Work Department Budget (1) setting out in Section 4 of the report details of the proposed review of the day care provision provided by the Council and of the initial findings of the review; (2) indicating that the Social Inclusion Partnership funded Utheo Limited at Orbiston Neighbourhood Centre in Bellshill which also provided day care services for older people had intimated that it hoped to secure funding from the Council to continue day care services at the end of this financial year; (3) intimating the full year funding for Wishaw Resource Centre for the Elderly and of Utheo Limited at Orbiston Neighbourhood Centre was £87,000 and £99,980 respectively for which there was no provision in the Social Work budget, and (4) advising that interim costs of continued funding for Wishaw Resource Centre of £7,250 per month could be met from within existing community care budgets.

Decided:

- (1) that a further report on the provision of day care services for older people be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee as a matter of urgency;
- (2) that continued interim funding of Wishaw Resource Centre on a month to month basis be approved, and
- (3) that the terms of the report be otherwise noted.

CANCELLATION OF REGISTRATION - DRUMPARK COTTAGE, BARGEDDIE

19. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 17 August 1999 by the Director of Social Work advising of the cancellation of the registration of Drumpark Cottage, Bargeddie which took effect on 8 July 1999 (1) outlining the background to the problems at Drumpark Cottage, Bargeddie which had led to the Social Work (Registration) Sub-Committee cancelling the registration of the home on 11 December 1998; (2) detailing the action taken by the Director of Social Work to ensure that all residents of the home were transferred to alternative accommodation; (3) setting out in paragraph 5 of the report the work undertaken by the Council's Registration and Inspection Unit throughout the process, and (4) intimating that the Council had brought to the attention of the Scottish Office the inadequacy of current legal measures available to local authorities when applying conditions or seeking to cancel registration.

Decided:

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- (1) that the satisfactory conclusion of the cancellation of the registration of Drumpark Cottage, Bargeddie be noted;
- (2) that the Director of Social Work's concern at the severe strain placed on the department's resources be noted, and
- (3) that the owners of Drumpark Cottage be required to return their registration certificate.

REVIEW OF THE JOINT COMMUNITY CARE PLAN AND ACCOMMODATION STRATEGY

20. With reference to paragraph 19 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 8 June 1999 when, *inter alia*, the proposed approach in reviewing the Joint Community Care Plan and Accommodation Strategy was approved, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 17 August 1999 by the Director of Social Work seeking approval to issue the draft review of the North Lanarkshire Joint Community Care Plan and Accommodation Strategy for a period of consultation (1) proposing that the draft review be sent to all organisations, community based groups and individuals known to have an interest in community care in North Lanarkshire, and (2) recommending that the draft be issued on 24 August 1999 for a period of eight weeks consultation until 19 October 1999 after which the review would be presented to Committee for final approval.

Decided:

- (1) that the draft review of the North Lanarkshire Joint Community Care Plan and Accommodation Strategy be issued for a period of consultation, and
- (2) that the contents of the report be noted.

GREATER GLASGOW HEALTH BOARD CONSULTATION PAPER - VOLUNTEERING IN THE NHS

21. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 17 August 1999 by the Director of Social Work regarding the publication of a consultation paper by Greater Glasgow Health Board on Volunteering in the National Health Service and setting out the Council's response to Greater Glasgow Health Board on the consultation paper (1) outlining the background to volunteering in the NHS; (2) setting out in Section 3 of the report Greater Glasgow Health Board's volunteering proposals, and (3) indicating that the consultation paper sets out a comprehensive policy on volunteering within the NHS in the Greater Glasgow Health Board area which, when implemented, would result in positive developments for the NHS, the volunteers and the patients who use the service.

Decided:

- (1) that the Director of Administration be authorised to advise Greater Glasgow Health Board of the Council's support for their policy on volunteering in the NHS, and
- (2) that the terms of the report be noted.

CONTRACT - 167-169 LOMOND ROAD, COATBRIDGE - DILAPIDATION

22. With reference to paragraph 6 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 8 June 1999 when consideration of the report was continued meantime, there were submitted reports (1) dated 17 August 1999 by the Director of Social Work advising that following discussion between the Director of Social Work and Scottish Homes it had been concluded that the Council was obliged to reinstate the property at Lomond Road, Coatbridge to its former standard, and that any delay in

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carrying out the terms of the lease agreement could result in the Council incurring additional expenditure to rectify

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damage to the property, and (2) dated 17 May 1999 by the Acting Director of Construction Services advising (a) that the lowest tender for the contract for 167/169 Lomond Road, Coatbridge, Dilapidation was that of Alastair Burnett and Company Limited, Coatbridge in the sum of £43,856.63, and (b) that the Director of Administration was now progressing this matter in terms of his delegated powers.

Decided:

- (1) that the report by the Director of Social Work be noted;
- (2) that the report submitted by the Acting Director of Construction Services for the re-instatement of the property at 167/169 Lomond Road, Coatbridge be approved, and
- (3) the Director of Administration be authorised to accept the tender from Alastair Burnett and Company Limited, Coatbridge in the sum of £43,856.63.

ACTION IN PARTNERSHIP: TACKLING DRUGS IN SCOTLAND

23. There was submitted a report dated 17 August 1999 by the Director of Social Work regarding the publication of a report by the Government "Action in Partnership" which sets out proposals for tackling drugs in Scotland (1) outlining the background to the Action in Partnership report which sets out Scotland's Drugs Strategy; (2) providing details of the four key principles on which the Strategy was founded namely inclusion, partnership, understanding and accountability; (3) detailing in Section 4 of the report the comprehensive objectives and action priorities which were set out in the report; (4) advising that Drug Action Teams (DAT) would be the focal point for local action on drugs misuse and that the DAT would take the lead role in effective joint working with local authorities, health boards and other key agencies on planning and providing services on drugs misuse, and (5) intimating that part of the responsibilities of the DAT would be to prepare Annual Corporate Plans which would be used as an integral part of their strategic planning arrangements.

Decided:

- (1) that the terms of the report be noted, and
- (2) that the Director of Social Work submit to a future meeting of the Committee the DAT Corporate Action Plan.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON FUNDING FOR LONG TERM CARE

24. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 17 August 1999 by the Director of Social Work regarding the publication of the Royal Commission Report on the funding for long term care (1) outlining the Terms of Reference for the Royal Commission; (2) setting out in Section 2.3 of the report the issues which the Commission were asked to take into consideration when carrying out their remit; (3) summarising in Schedule 1 to the report the recommendations of the Commission's report; (4) indicating in Section 3.3 of the report a number of issues which the Commission thought required to be highlighted, and (5) intimating that the Royal Commission report made a number of important recommendations which if adopted would remove some of the more contentious issues from long term care, although, to date there had been no firm indication from the Government on the acceptance of the recommendations or the timescale for implementation of the Royal Commission Report.

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.

SUBSTANCE MISUSE - A PARTNERSHIP APPROACH

25. With reference to paragraph 15 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 30 March 1999 when, *inter alia*, it had been agreed following conclusion of formal agreement with Lanarkshire Health Board and Lanarkshire Healthcare Trust on the adoption of an Addiction Strategy for Lanarkshire that the Director of Social Work would submit a further report to Committee, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 17 August 1999 by the Director of Social Work advising of an agreement between Lanarkshire Health Board, Lanarkshire Primary Care NHS Trust and North and South Lanarkshire Councils on substance misuse services (1) outlining the background to the agreement; (2) setting out in Appendix 1 to the report details of the joint arrangement; (3) indicating that as part of the process in introducing the arrangements contained in the Partnership Approach Report, a pilot study had been implemented to run in the area covered by Motherwell/Clydesdale Community Addiction Team; (4) detailing in Section 3 of the report the implementation arrangements for the introduction of the Partnership Approach, and (5) intimating that the Partnership Approach accords with stated arrangements contained within the Government's Report "Action in Partnership".

Decided: that the terms of the report be noted.

SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE CONSULTATION DOCUMENT - THE COMMITTEE ON SERIOUS, VIOLENT AND SEXUAL OFFENDERS

26. There was submitted a report (docketed) dated 17 August 1999 by the Director of Social Work informing of the Consultation Document by the Committee on Serious, Violent and Sexual Offenders and setting out the Council's response to the Consultation Paper (1) outlining the background to and of the Terms of Reference of the Committee on Serious, Violent and Sexual Offenders; (2) detailing in Section 3 of the report the contents of the Consultation Paper, and (3) setting out in an Appendix to the report the Council's detailed answers to the questions posed in the Consultation Document.

Decided:

- (1) that the contents of the Consultation Document be noted, and
- (2) that the comments set out in the Appendix to the report be endorsed as the Council's formal response to the Consultation Paper by the Committee on Serious, Violent and Sexual Offenders.

PROVISION OF REDUNDANCY SUPPORT

27. With reference to paragraph 15 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 2 March 1999 when, *inter alia*, the Council's corporate response to mass redundancies, company closures and receiverships in North Lanarkshire was noted, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 17 August 1999 by the Director of Social Work regarding the work undertaken by the Council's departments in the provision of redundancy support to affected workforces in North Lanarkshire (1) detailing the work undertaken between April 1998 to March 1999; (2) outlining the range of support delivered by North Lanarkshire Council and its external partners over this period; (3) detailing the developments in providing a range of improved, updated and user friendly information, and (4) informing of future developments in the provision of support and the formulation of a Working Group to examine (a) how the partnership could be strengthened, and (b) the provision of a solution to some or all of the problems being faced in the run up to redundancies or closure.

Decided:

- (1) that the contents of the report be noted,
- (2) that the Director of Social Work submit a further report on the findings of the Working Group.

REVIEW OF MENTAL HEALTH (SCOTLAND) ACT 1984

28. With reference to paragraph 17 of the Minute of the meeting of this Committee held on 8 June 1999 when, *inter alia*, it had been agreed that responsibility for responding to the Scottish Office review of the Mental Health Scotland Act 1984 be remitted to the Director of Social Work subject to consultation with the Convener and Vice-Conveners of the Social Work Committee, there was submitted a report (docketed) dated 17 August 1999 by the Director of Social Work (1) advising that the response which was set out in Appendix 1 to the report included the Council's views on over 200 questions posed by the Scottish Office, and (2) intimating that the Director of Administration had submitted the response to the Scottish Office to meet the deadline of 6 August 1999.

Decided: that the actions by the Director of Administration in submitting the response as attached in Appendix 1 to the Scottish Office to meet the deadline of 6 August 1999 be homologated.

CONFERENCES

(1) "DEVELOPING EFFECTIVE FAMILY POLICY - GOVERNMENT'S NEW APPROACH"

29. There was considered an invitation from the Royal Overseas League to attend a conference entitled "Developing Effective Family Policy - Government's New Approach" which had been held in London on 15 June 1999.

Decided: that it be noted that no attendance at this conference had been authorised.

(2) "STEPS TO EXCELLENCE - THE FUTURE OF FAMILY DAY CARE"

30. There was considered an invitation from the Scottish Childminding Association to attend a conference entitled "Steps to Excellence - The Future of Family Day Care" which had been held in Strathclyde University from 19 to 22 August 1999.

Decided: that it be noted that no attendance at this conference had been authorised.

(3) "THE CHILDCARE STRATEGY IN RURAL SCOTLAND"

31. There was considered an invitation from Children in Scotland to attend a conference entitled "The Childcare Strategy in Rural Scotland" to be held in Perth on 25 August 1999.

Decided: that no attendance at this conference be authorised.

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(4) “ACHIEVING BEST VALUE IN SOCIAL SERVICES”

32. There was considered an invitation from IBC UK Conferences Limited to attend a conference entitled “Achieving Best Value in Social Services” to be held in London on 24 September 1999.

Decided: that no attendance at this conference be authorised.

(5) “ANNUAL SCOTTISH DRUG TRENDS SEMINAR”

33. There was considered an invitation from the Scottish Drugs Forum to attend a conference entitled “Annual Scottish Drug Trends Seminar” to be held in Stirling on 7 October 1999.

Decided: that Councillor Love be authorised to attend.

(6) “MY KIND OF PLACE”

34. There was considered an invitation from Children in Scotland to attend a conference entitled “My Kind of Place” to be held in Dundee on 11 and 12 November 1999.

Decided: that Councillor Sullivan be authorised to attend.

(7) “REDUCTION OF CRIME - REALITY OR RHETORIC”

35. There was considered an invitation from the Scottish Association for the Study of Delinquency to attend a conference entitled “Reduction of Crime - Reality or Rhetoric” to be held in Peebles from 19 to 21 November 1999.

Decided: that no attendance at this conference be authorised.